

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-25 and 27-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 7, 10, 13, 21-22, 24 and 27-29 are amended, claims 4 and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 31-33 are added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant sincerely acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claims 1-12, 19, 21 and 30 define patentable subject matter. However, for at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

A. The Office Action objects to the drawings. Applicant respectfully submits that an exemplary "seat" 142 is shown in Figure 5. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

B. The Office Action rejects claims 17, 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that a through hole as recited in claim 17 can be a hole formed from one side of the first body to the opposite side of the first body. Further, a latch unit can be placed in the through hole in the first body. Within the latch unit, a passage hole such as exemplary passage hole 102 shown in Fig. 3a can be configured to receive a latch such as exemplary latch 120. In addition, in one embodiment, a through hole and a passage hole may be accessible or configured on an identical side portion.

With respect to claims 27 and 28, Applicant respectfully submits that a first body can include a display surface. Alternatively, a first body can include an input unit such as a touch

sensitive screen, for example, used in a tablet mode of a portable computer. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that a main body can include a keyboard. Alternatively, in one embodiment, a main body can include a display surface in addition to, in combination with or replacing the keyboard unit. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 17 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. §112 is respectfully requested.

C. The Office Action rejects claims 13-18, 20 and 24-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,707,665 to Hsu et al. (hereafter "Hsu"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claims 13, 24 and 29, Applicant respectfully submits that allowable subject matter has been incorporated. For at least that reason, Applicant respectfully submits claims 13, 24 and 29 define patentable subject matter. Claims 14-18, 20, 25, and 27-28 depend from claims 13 and 24, respectively, and therefore also define patentable subject matter for at least that reason as well as their additionally recited features. Claim 26 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13-18, 20 and 24-29 under §102 is respectfully requested.

D. The Office Action rejects claims 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hsu. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claim 23, Applicant respectfully submits that Hsu does not teach or suggest a method of latching a portable computer including moving the first body to the second closed position and pressing the first engagement protrusion to latch a second engagement

protrusion of the bi-directional latch in the engagement catch, wherein the first and second engagement protrusions extend from opposite sides of the first body and combinations thereof as recited in claim 23. In contrast, Applicant respectfully submits that Hsu discloses pressing a hook controlling member 41 in order to move an engaging end 423, 424, respectively. See Figs. 2-3 and column 3, lines 49-59 and column 4, line 10, a hook-controlling member recited in claim 1 of Hsu. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that Hsu does not teach or suggest any modification to its disclosure that would result in at least features of pressing the first engagement protrusion to latch a second engagement protrusion of the bi-directional latch in the engagement catch, wherein the first and second engagement protrusions extend from opposite sides of the first body and combinations thereof as recited in claim 23.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits claim 23 defines patentable subject matter. Claim 22 defines patentable subject matter for at least reasons similar to claim 23. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 22-23 under §103 is respectfully requested.

D. Claims 31-33 are newly added by this Amendment and believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Reply to Office Action of February 8, 2005

Docket No. IK-0079

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carl R. Wesolowski**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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